

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01656 111232Z

44

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /023 W

----- 025800

R 110935Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 18

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 1656

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM

REF: A. SOFIA 872 B. SOFIA 95

1. BULGARIANS HAVE FORWARDED ONE MORE APPLICATION FOR IV GRANT: TODOR POPOV, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FOR MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNICAL PROGRESS AND HIGHER EDUCATION (REF A). POPOV ALSO IS PROFESSOR AT AGRICULTURAL ACADEMY "GEORGI DIMITROV" IN SOFIA, SPECIALIZING IN INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETS; HIS APPLICATION IS IN FIELD OF U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS (REF B, PARA 1E). PRELIMINARY BIODATA BEING POUCHED. GERMAN OR RUSSIAN INTERPRETER-ESCORT WOULD BE NEEDED. WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF GRANT.

2. COMMENT: BULGARIANS NOW HAVE PRESENTED FOUR CANDIDATES IN THREE OF THE FIVE FIELDS IN WHICH WE OFFERED IV GRANTS; IT IS NOT COINCIDENTAL THAT THOSE THREE ARE SCIENTIFIC/ TECHNICAL FIELDS, WHILE THE TWO SOCIAL/CULURAL FIELDS (AMERICAN STUDIES AND DRAMATIC ARTS) HAVE SO FAR GONE BEGGING. THIS IS NOT SURPRISING (REF A, PARA 6), BUT IS SOMEWHAT BALANCED BY KAMOVA GRANT ACCEPTANCE, BOZHILOV GRANT REQUEST (ON WHICH WE AWAIT DEPT. REPLY) AND JOSE LIMON DANCE COMPANY'S UPCOMING VISIT. CERTAINLY U.S.- BULGARIAN EDUCATIONAL/CULTURAL EXCHANGES DO NOT PRESENT WELL-ROUNDED PICTURE, BUT THERE HAS BEEN MEASURABLE

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IMPROVEMENT OVER PAST YEAR.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SOFIA01656
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750276-0745
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750863/aaaaceap.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SOFIA 872, 75 SOFIA 95
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM
TAGS: OEXC, BU, (POPOV, TODOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006